

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A sense of force imparting type input device comprising:
an outer casing having an opening;

an operating lever having a fulcrum inside the outer casing
5 and being pivotably supported;

detecting means for detecting the operating state of the
operating lever;

an actuator for imparting an external force to the operating
lever;

10 control means for controlling driving of the actuator based
on output signals supplied from the detecting means; and

a monitor for displaying various menus and the current
position of the operating lever,

wherein the outer casing is provided with a plurality of
15 key switches arranged thereon so as to surround the operating
lever, and the key switches are allocated to a plurality of pieces
of equipment displayed as an equipment menu on the monitor, so
that the selecting operation of equipment from the equipment menu
is determined by pressing the key switches.

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2. A sense of force imparting type input device according
to Claim 1, wherein the key switches are subjected to the surface
treatment that gives different surface touches from key to key.

25 3. A sense of force imparting type input device according
to Claim 1, wherein the operating forces required to operate the
key switches differ from each other.

4. A sense of force imparting type input device according to Claim 1, wherein the operating strokes of the key switches differ from each other.

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5. A sense of force imparting type input device according to Claims 1, wherein the key switches are arranged into an annular shape.

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6. A sense of force imparting type input device according Claims 1, wherein the key switches are arranged into the shape of a square frame.